MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND FEBRUARY 10, 2015 MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Status of Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS)

Los Angeles County (County) is a member of the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System, a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), tasked with the duty to construct a county-wide voice and data communication system for public safety and first responders. This system is essential to ensure that all relevant public safety and health agencies can communicate with each other seamlessly in the event of a disaster. The system is composed of two components: an LTE data system and an LMR voice system.

Given the large federal and local investment to plan and construct this system, it should provide the additional benefit of fueling local construction employment in the region. This is especially true because the LTE system is primarily funded by America Recovery Act grants--grants expressly intended to create employment.

A number of municipalities have recently opted out, including the large municipality of Long Beach. The Board of Supervisors should be reassured that system coverage is still countywide and will fulfill its purpose in the event of a disaster.

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FEBRUARY 10, 2015

PAGE 2

In addition, when a municipality leaves LA-RICS, each remaining member's

share of the cost to construct and maintain the system increases. The Board of

Supervisors should be apprised of the fiscal impact not only on the County, but also on

the other cities in the system, some of which may not be able to withstand the increased

financial burden.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS direct the

Interim Chief Executive Officer to report back within 60 days for discussion by the Board

on:

A. The status of construction, including employment of County residents in

construction of the system; and

B. The number of municipal departures and the impact of those departures on the

LA-RICS' coverage footprint and inter-operability;

C. The municipalities that have expressed concern with the JPA and/or an intent to

withdraw from the JPA; and

D. The consequence and impact of municipal departures from the LA-RICS JPA on

the remaining members' share of cost.

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